

# WEB DEV POOL

< DAY 09 - PHP />



## **WEB DEV POOL**

### **Before you start**

Now that you now the basics of programming in PHP, let's use it to interact with HTML and forms.

#### Setup a web server

Contrary to HTML, CSS and Javascript which are interpreted client-side by your web browser, PHP is a back-end language.

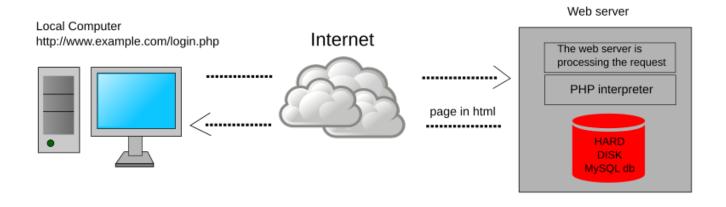
It needs a server that will interpret the language (as does the php command you've used yesterday) when a URL is called from the browser.

We won't detail it here but it would be useful for you to install and configure a simple PHP web server for testing purposes.

Here's a tutorial: How to Install LAMP, but you can find many more on the Internet.



Apache and Nginx are both great web servers capable of processing PHP.





Delivery: ./task01.php

Create a display\_menu function that:

- ✓ takes no parameters;
- ✓ returns a string containing HTML capable of rendering a menu, like this:

```
     <a href="home.php">Home</a>
     <a href="product.php">Products</a>
     <a href="about.php">About Us</a>
     <a href="contact.php">Contact</a>
```

Because you've setup a web server, you can test the function.

See how your browser renders the menu by creating a page like index01.php containing:

Then, go to http://127.0.0.1/index01.php where you SHOULD see your page with the menu.



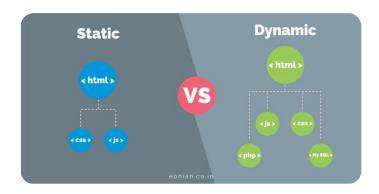


#### Delivery: ./task02.php

Remembers day01 of this pool?

If you keep just the content of the <body> of each page in separate HTML files, such as home.html, php.html and sql.html, you would be able to **include** it in your structure.

PHP can be used to render **dynamic content** without having to re-write all of the page structure for each new page of your website.



Create a render\_body function which takes a string as parameter.

If the string is home, php or sql, returns the content of the corresponding HTML file.

If the parameter is unknown, just return: Unknown page.



The corresponding HTML files must be present in the same directory as task02.php

Test the function: see if your browser render the body of a page like index02.php containing:

Go to http://127.0.0.1/index02.php.

You should see your page with the content of home.html inside the <body> tag. If you change the value of the parameter, the content of the page changes.

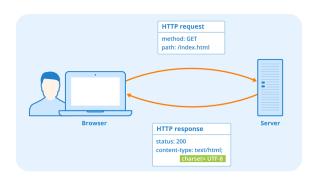


#### Delivery: ./task03.php

The previous task was good, but not enough.

Indeed, it's not fully dynamic as you edit your index file to change a parameter value.

We'll now become truly dynamic by using *URL parameters* (such as **GET**).



Create a dynamic\_body function which takes no parameter. It'll check the value of the GET parameter called page. Depending on the value of this page parameter, do the same thing as the previous task. If there is no page parameter or if its value is unknown, just return: Unknown page.



There's a special variable in PHP called \$\_GET.

Test the function: see if your browser render the body of a page index03.php containing:

Go to http://127.0.0.1/index03.php?page=home.

You should see your page with the content of home.html inside the <body> tag.

You can now change the value of page in the URL to change the content of the body.

That's what I call dynamic, you no longer have to edit your file.

All your web pages now shares the same structure using a single file.



#### Delivery: ./task04.php

Now that you know how to handle URL parameters with \$\_GET we'll see another way of sending data: POST. GET and POST are different in terms of limitations and usage. POST is most commonly used to handle forms data.



More information on GET vs POST and example here on w3schools.

Create a function whoami which takes no parameters and prints "Hi, my name is <name> and I'm <age> years old.". The name and age parameters will come as **POST** data.

If there's no name, print: "Hi, I have no name and I'm <age> years old."

If there's no age or it's not valid, print: "Hi, my name is <name>."

If there's neither a name or a valid age, guess what you should print.

If you've setup a web server, you can test the function using the curl command.

#### **Examples:**

```
Terminal
- + x

> cat index04.php

<?php
require("task04.php");
whoami();
?>
```

```
Terminal

S> curl -d "name=Jane&age=21" -H "Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded" -X POST http://127.0.0.1/index04.php
Hi, my name is Jane and I'm 21 years old.
```

```
Terminal - + x

$> curl -d "nom=John&age=48" -H "Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded" -X POST

http://127.0.0.1/index04.php

Hi, I have no name and I'm 48 years old.
```



#### Delivery: ./task05.php

We'll now connect our PHP script to a real HTML form. You have to make the following page work (you can name it index5.php but you don't have to turn it in!).

```
<!doctype html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
 <meta charset="utf-8">
  <title>Task 05</title>
</head>
<body>
  <?php
  require("task05.php");
  if (form_is_submitted()) {
  <?php whoami(); ?>
  <?php } else { ?>
 <form method="post">
   <div>
     <label for="name">Name</label>
     <input type="text" id="name" name="name" />
   </div>
      <label for="age">Age</label>
     <input type="number" id="age" name="age" min="0" />
    </div>
   <div>
     <label for="curriculum">Curriculum</label>
     <select name="curriculum" id="curriculum">
       <option value="">--Please choose an option--
       <option value="pge">PGE (Programme Grande Ecole)
       <option value="msc">MSc Pro</option>
       <option value="coding">Coding Academy</option>
       <option value="wac">Web@cademie
     </select>
    </div>
    <div>
     <input type="submit" name="submit" value="Send" />
   </div>
  </form>
  <?php } ?>
</body>
</html>
```

Thus, you have to create two functions:

- ✓ form\_is\_submitted returns a boolean value (form has already been submitted or not).
- ✓ whoami works as in the previous task with an added feature. It must add "I'm a student of <curriculum>." if there's a curriculum specified after the first sentence. Example: "Hi, I have no name and I'm 48 years old. I'm a student of MSC Pro."



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